

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 are pending in the application. Claims 1-5, 7-19, and 21-28 currently stand rejected. Claims 6 and 20 are objected to. Claims 1 and 15 have been amended. Claims 6 and 20 have been cancelled. The Applicant respectfully requests allowance of claims 1-5, 7-19, and 21-28 and consideration of the following remarks.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 6 and 20 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. (See page 8 of the Office Action.)

Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 6. There are no intervening claims. Thus, claim 1 is now an independent claim including all of the limitations of allowable claim 6. Claim 1 is therefore allowable, and such indication is respectfully requested.

Claim 15 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 20. There are no intervening claims. Thus, claim 15 is now an independent claim including all of the limitations of allowable claim 20. Claim 15 is therefore allowable, and such indication is respectfully requested.

35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejections

Claims 1-5, 7-19, and 21-28 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0157646 (Addagatla), in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0070230 (Das). (See pages 3-8 of the Office Action.) Independent claim 15 contains limitations similar to those of independent claim 1 and was rejected for reasons similar to those for claim 1. Thus, the following discussion applies equally to claims 1 and 15. The Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claims 1 and 15 have been amended to include all of the limitations of allowable claims 6 and 20 respectively. Claim 1 is now an independent claim including all of the limitations of allowable claim 6. Claim 1 is therefore allowable, and such indication is respectfully requested. Claim 15 is now an independent claim including all of the

limitations of allowable claim 20. Claim 15 is therefore allowable, and such indication is respectfully requested.

Based on the foregoing comments, the Applicant contends that claims 1 and 15 are allowable in view of the cited references, and such indication is respectfully requested. Claims 2-5 and 7-14 depend from independent claim 1, and claims 16-19 and 21-28 depend from independent claim 15, thus incorporating the limitations of their corresponding independent claims. Therefore, the Applicant asserts that claims 2-5, 7-14, 16-19, and 21-28 are allowable for at least the reasons given above in support of independent claims 1 and 15, and such indication is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above remarks, the Applicant submits that the claims in their present form are allowable. Additional reasons in support of patentability exist, but such reasons are omitted in the interests of clarity and brevity. The Applicant respectfully requests allowance of the claims.

The Applicant believes no fees are due with respect to this filing. However, should the Office determine fees are necessary, the Office is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 210765.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 09/03/2008

/Leslie P. Gehman/

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